

Dogs on Open Space and Mountain Parks

Regulations and Use Map





City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks

Dogs on Open Space and Mountain Parks

Open Space and Mountain Parks receives over 3.5 million visits each year, and up to 1 million of these are dogs. You share OSMP land with wildlife, plants and other recreationists. Dog regulations are designed to protect the natural environment. Walking dogs on OSMP is a privilege that depends on your courtesy and respect for these regulations.

- → Dogs are allowed on most, but not all parts of OSMP. Please refer to the regulation map.
- → Where allowed, city of Boulder law requires that your dog must be kept on a leash unless it can reliably demonstrate the Voice and Sight Control Standard.
- → Having your dog off leash on OSMP is a privilege earned by patient and consistent training.

Does My Dog Meet the "Voice and Sight Control Standard?"

Voice and Sight Control means that the dog will come and stay with the guardian **immediately** upon command by that person, regardless of other distractions which are encountered on OSMP. The dog must always be in sight and voice range of the guardian.

If your dog can't meet these requirements, runs up to people or other dogs, chases wildlife, or will **not always come to you immediately**, your dog must be leashed.





"The Law"

City of Boulder law requires that dogs must be on leash unless you meet the requirements of voice and sight control.



Your dog must NEVER:

- → Fail to come to and stay with the guardian immediately upon command by that person.
- ∼ Charge, chase or display aggression toward any person or behave in a way that any person may find harassing or disturbing.
- ← Charge, chase or display aggression toward any dog, wildlife or livestock.

In addition, dog guardians **must** have leashes for each dog in their possession. Leashes must be accessible at all times even if the dog is under voice and sight control. Keeping your dog leashed is your best method of protecting your dog from hazards which could injure or kill the dog.

No more than two dogs may be off leash and under voice and sight control per guardian at any time.

You are required by law to promptly **remove** and **dispose** of your dog's excrement. Pet pickup bags may be provided at some locations but we encourage you to bring your own bags. OSMP estimates that about 30 tons of dog poop are left behind on OSMP land every year.

Penalties

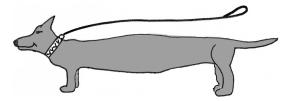
- → Failure to have control of your dog or comply with the above regulations could result in a court summons. Penalties can range as high as \$1000 and/or 90 days in jail.
- → Dogs observed running, molesting, or menacing people, wildlife, or livestock may be destroyed by a park patrol officer.

"Leave No Trace" Dogs

Is your dog light on the land? Unless carefully managed, your dog may damage the natural environment you have come to enjoy.

- → Poop Harms the Environment Pick up and throw away your dog's excrement to minimize the spread of disease such as the deadly Parvovirus. Dog excrement isn't just foul-smelling, it damages the land by adding excessive amounts of nitrogen fertilizer to the soil which may encourage the spread of noxious weeds at the expense of native plants.
- → Respect Wildlife/Livestock Watch your dog for signs of interest in wildlife/livestock, and anticipate any behavior which might lead to chasing or harassing wildlife.
- ★ Stay on Trails Keep yourself and your dog on signed and designated trails. Allowing your dog to roam widely around the trail corridor can hurt wildlife and decrease opportunities to observe wildlife for you and others.
- ✓ Use Extra Caution at Trail Heads Keep your dog on leash at trail heads where there is heavy, concentrated use by visitors.
- ✓ Please Train Elsewhere OSMP is not a place to train dogs because of the potential for a dog to bother visitors or disturb wildlife.
 Being allowed off leash in the park is a reward for dogs that have learned to be obedient.
- → The Humane Society of Boulder Valley (303-442-4030) offers outdoor and indoor dog training and obedience classes.





Other Agency Regulations

City of Boulder: On all public streets, paths and parks, dogs must be on a hand-held leash. Call the Humane Society of Boulder Valley at 303-442-4030 for further information.

Boulder County Parks and Open Space: Where dogs are permitted, all Boulder County Parks and Open Space (303-441-3950) lands require all dogs to be on a leash.

Eldorado Canyon State Park: Eldorado Canyon State Park (303-494-3943) requires all dogs to be on a leash (6 ft. or less) and under control at all times.

U.S. Forest Service Lands: Dogs must be on a leash (6ft. or less) in any developed area or campground and in the Indian Peaks Wilderness Area. Dogs must be in voice and sight control in undeveloped areas. Call 303-444-6600.

Dog Parks: An Off Leash Alternative

Featured on the dog management map, on the other side of this brochure, are several dog parks in the city of Boulder where owners may take their dogs to be off leash. Dogs must be licensed and non-aggressive. Call the city of Boulder Parks and Recreation (303-413-7230) for more information.

City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks 66 South Cherryvale Rd Boulder, CO 80303 303-441-3440

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Check out Dogs on Open Space & Mountain Parks at

www.ci.boulder.co.us/openspace